1809

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE

OF

NORTH-CAROLINA

AND

TENNESSEE,

FOR A. L. 5809, A. D. 1809.

RALEIGH:
FROM THE PRESS OF WILLIAM BOYLAN.

1810.

PROCEEDINGS, &c.

AGREEABLE to an order made by the most Worshipful Major General Benjamin Smith, Grand Master of Masons ; the Grand Lodge of North-Carolina and Tennessee, Convened in their Lodge Room in the City of Raleigh, on the evening of Thursday the 30th day of November, A. L. 5809, A. D. 1809.

WHEN WERE PRESENT,

The most Worshipful Major General Benjamin Smith, Grand Master.

R. W. Robert Williams, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. George Lee Davidson, G. S. W.

R. W. Calvin Jones, G. J. W. *pro tem.*

R. W. Robert W. Smith, Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*

R. W. William Boylan, Grand Treasurer.

Brother Joseph H. Bryan, G. S. D. *pro tem.*

Brother Allen Rogers, G. J. D. *pro tem.*

Brother Thomas Pound, Grand Tyler.

Member.— General Montfort Stokes.

Visitors.—Brothers Wm. Hill, Hugh Mills, Thomas Henderson, James Owen, and Thomas Brown, jun.

Representatives from the Subordinate Lodges, to wit:

from

St. John, No. 1. Wilmington, Brother Wm. Watts Jones.

Royal Edwin, No. 5. Windsor, Brother Joseph H. Bryan.

Phœnix, No. 8. Fayetteville, Brothers Gen. Thomas Davis, and James Campbell.

Old Cone, No. 9. Salisbury, Brother Gen. Montfort Stokes, and Jacob Fisher.

King Solomon, No. 18. Jones county, Brother James C. Bryan.

Pansophia, No. 25. Moore county, Brother Archibald M'Neal.

Mount Moria, No 27. Iredell county, Brother George Lee Davidson, and H. G. Burton.

Phalanx, No. 31. Charlotte, Mecklenburgh county, Brothers Robert W. Smith, and Hutchings G. Burton.

Stokes, No. 32. Cabarrus county, Brothers Israel Pickens, and Hutchings G. Burton.

Davie, No. 39. Bertie county, Brother Andrew Jones.

Hiram, No. 40. City of Raleigh, Brother Allen Rogers, Wm. Hill, and D. Barrenger.

Social, No 46. Pittsborough, Chatham county, Brother Oliver Prince.

Orange, No. 47. Lincoln county, Brother William Boylan.

Young Eagle, No. 49. Martin county Brother Jeremiah Slade.

Newport, No. 50. in the town of Newport, State of Tennessee, Brother Robert Williams.

King Solomon, No. 52. in the town of Gallatin, State of Tennessee, Brother Robert Williams.

Hall, No. 53. Indian town, Currituck county, Brother Brickhouse Bell.

Unanimity, No. 54. Edenton, Brother John Beasley.

Lodge by dispensation in the town of Franklin, State of Tennessee, Brother Robert Williams.

This Lodge was opened in due and solemn form.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge com-

munications received during the last year from the following Grand Lodges, to wit: Nova Scotia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, and Georgia, which were referred to a committee consisting of Brothers Robert Williams, George Lee Davidson, Calvin Jones, Israel Pickens and Joseph H. Bryan, to examine and report thereon.

Ordered, That Brothers William Watts Jones, Hutchings G. Burton, and Robert W. Smith, be appointed a committee to enquire into and report what measures ought to be adopted relative to the dispute about jurisdiction now existing between this Grand Lodge and that of Kentucky.

The most Worshipful Grand Master observed to this Lodge, that he had by virtue of his office as Grand Master, visited in person the following subordinate Lodges, to wit: St. John, No. 3. Newbern.—Taylor, No. 48. Beaufort.—Washington, No. 15. Beaufort county.—Federal, No. 42. Pitt county. That some were expert, others tolerable, &c.

Ordered, That Brothers Beasley, Bryan, and Taylor, be appointed a committee to examine into and report the state of our Treasury.

For certain reasons adduced to this Grand Lodge it is *Ordered*, That the sum of fifteen pounds be given as a credit to Stokes Lodge, No. 32. Cabarrus county. And that the Grand Treasurer enter the same accordingly.

This Lodge then adjourned until 11th of December next.

Monday, 11*th December*, *A. L.* 5809. *A. D.* 1809.

The Grand Lodge met according to adjournment, when were present, the Right Worshipful Robert Williams, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Master, *pro tem.*

R. W. General Montfort Stokes, G. S. W. *pro tem.*

R. W. Doct. Calvin Jones, G. J. W. *pro tem.*

R. W. Jeremiah Slade, Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*

R. W. William Boylan, Grand Treasurer.

Brother Joseph H Bryan, G. S. D. *pro tem.*

Brother Allen Rogers, G J. D. *pro tem.*

Brother Thomas Pounds, Grand Tyler.

Visitors.—Brothers Jonathan Parker, Mark Cooke, George L. Ryan, Maurice Moore, Hugh Mills, James Owen, Jehu Scott, Lewis Meuse, Richard Bannester, and Jesse Barnett.

Representatives from the Subordinate Lodges, to wit : from

St. John, No. 1. Wilmington, Brother William W. Jones.

Royal White Heart, No. 2. Halifax, Brothers Matthew C. Whitaker, and Joseph Bryant.

St. John, No. 3. Newbern, Brother Robert Williams.

Royal Edwin, No. 5. Windsor, Brother Joseph H. Bryan.

Old Cone, No. 9. Salisbury, Brothers Gen. Montfort Stokes, and Jacob Fisher.

Hiram, No. 24. Williamsborough, Granville county, Brothers Thomas Taylor, William Sneed and Henry Yancy.

Pansophia, No. 25. Moore county, Brother Archibald M'Neal.

Mount Moria, No. 27. Iredell county, Brother H. G. Burton.

St. Tammany, No. 30. Wilmington, Brother Wm. W. Jones.

Phalanx, No. 31. Charlotte, Mecklenburg county, Brothers H. G. Burton and Robert Smith.

Stokes, No. 32. Cabarrus county, Brother H. G. Burton.

Hiram, No. 40. City of Raleigh, Brothers Allen Rogers, William Hill and D. Barrenger.

Liberty, No. 45. Wilkesborough, Wilkes county, Brother Edmund Jones.

Orange, No. 47. Lincoln county, Brother William Boylan.

Taylor, No. 48. Beaufort, Brother Jacob Henry.

Young Eagle, No. 49. Martin county, Brother Jeremiah Slade.

Newport, No. 50. in the town of Newport, state of Tennessee, Brother Robert Williams.

King Solomon, No. 52. in the town of Gallatin, state of Tennessee, Brother Robert Williams.

Hall, No. 53. Indian Town, Currituck county, Brother Brickhouse Bell.

Unanimity, No. 54. Edenton, Brother John Beasley.

Lodge by dispensation in the town of Franklin, state of Tennessee, Brother Robert Williams.

This Lodge was opened in due and solemn form.

On motion of Brother Robert Williams, it is ordered, that a Charter issue constituting a Lodge in the town of Franklin, in the state of Tennessee, by the name of Hiram, No. 7. of Tennessee, but No. 55. on the archives of this Grand Lodge. And that it be directed to Charles M'Alister, Master, Guilford Dudley, Senior Warden, and George Hulme, Junior Warden, for opening and governing said Lodge.

The committee who were appointed to examine into, and report the state of the Treasury, do now report, that having discharged that duty, they find on the 20th day of November, A. L. 5809, the sum of £460 8 1: four hundred and sixty pounds, eight shillings and one penny, now in the hands of the Grand Treasurer. Which report was concurred with by this Grand Lodge.

The committee to whom was referred the selection of an Emblem, reported one which they had chosen at the price of one hundred and eighty dollars, besides other charges, &c. Which report was concurred with by this Grand Lodge, whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer proceed to have the same executed as soon as convenient, in conformity to a former resolution of this Grand Lodge.

This Grand Lodge now proceeded to the election of its Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when were duly elected,

Major General Benjamin Smith, Grand Master.

Major General Montfort Stokes, Grand Senior Warden.

Doctor Calvin Jones, Adjutant General of the Militia of this State, Grand Junior Warden.

Thomas L. Williams, Grand Secretary.

William Boylan, Esq. Grand Treasurer.

Who were severally installed in due and solemn form according to the ancient usages of Masonry.

The Most Worshipful Major Gen. Benjamin Smith, Grand Master of Masons, did by virtue of his office make the following appointments, to wit:

Robert Williams, Attorney at Law in the City of Raleigh, Deputy Grand Master.

General Stephen W. Carney, Grand Senior Deacon.

George Lee Davidson, Esq. a member of the Legislature of North Carolina, Grand Junior Deacon.

The Hon. Samuel Lowrie, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, Grand Pursuivant.

The Honorable Leonard Henderson, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, Grand Marshall.

Brother Thomas Pounds, Grand Tyler.

The Committee to whom was referred the dispute existing between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, relative to jurisdiction, Report,

That certain articles of confederation were proposed by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and were adopted by this Grand Lodge, on the 17th day of December, A. D. 1796. That the second article of said Confederation is in the following words, "That it shall be an invariable "principle, that no Charter of erection, or dispensation "shall be granted to any number of Masons residing out "of the state, wherein the Grand Lodge adopting the "principle is held, except when the Grand Lodge of the "State in which the petitioners reside shall acquiesce "therein in writing."

Your committee state, that in 1796, Kentucky was under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. whether these articles of confederation, as proposed by Massachusetts, were adopted by the Grand Lodge of Virgina at that time, your committee have no correct information; yet it is presumed that such an adoption was made.

This Grand Lodge was constituted by Charter issued from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. This Charter authorised this Grand Lodge to constitute at pleasure, new Lodges in his then majesty's province of North Carolina. It is well known that what is now the state of Tennessee, was at that time within the chartered limits of his majesty's Province of North Carolina. This Grand Lodge, being thus constituted a sovereignty for the purposes of Masonry, had a right to extend its government to every

part of its territories, whenever new Lodges were constituted. That this is correct upon principles of natural law. Hence it follows that as our Charter included the whole of the Province of North Carolina, and as Tennessee was at that time part of said Povince, so Tennessee comes within the jurisdiction of this Charter. That Tennessee will continue to remain within this jurisdiction until a new sovereignty shall be erected by those rules common among civilized nations. That Tennessee not being settled by Masons at that time will not alter the principle. If any Grand Lodge is acknowledged as a sovereignty for the benefits of Masonry, this sovereignty quoad hoc must be taken in the similitude of other sovereignties. This being admitted, our sovereignty of Masonry extended through all parts of North Carolina, it being attached to the soil; the right of which all mankind admit is the primary cause of domain. This domain being first established, societies and compacts are formed for benefits resulting to each party. As society progress in population, new rules become necessary to enforce obedience to the original compact. This increase of population is applicable to Tennessee, as growing out of North Carolina: that as it swelled, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, found it necessary to constitute new Lodges within that part of its domain; and at this time there are six Lodges in Tennessee, chartered from this Grand Lodge, which they acknowledge as author of their existence, and fountain of their power. That they are respectively represented in our grand annual communications, at every session thereof, by a delegation chosen by them for that purpose; and that they regularly pay their dues to our grand charity. That the style of this Grand Lodge, is that of North-Carolina and Tennessee, so adopted by a convention of Masons, assembled by representatives as well from the State of Tennessee as from North Carolina.

Your Committee further state from good information, that the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, have constituted by Charter, a Lodge or Lodges in the Western parts of Tennessee, which they deem an infringement on our jurisdiction; and therefore improper, because if this prin-

ciple was recognized, subordinate Lodges becoming displeased with their Grand Lodge, for motives however improper, would withdraw from their government and attach themselves to the jurisdiction of some other. That such subordinate Lodges may take the round of all Grand Lodges in America, and avert with impunity the chastising hand of the mother Grand Lodge, who alone may know the errors, and best apply the proper corrective. That when any subordinate Lodge is created by a Grand Lodge, the latter has an inherent right to remove improper conduct in the former. That no other Grand Lodge as a sovereignty has any right to interfere with the members or jurisdiction of another. Such an interference Mr. Locke on civil government, c. 18. calls "usurpation." Such an interference as this, your committee conceive will shake the foundations of Masonry, as may be seen, when we advert to the first principles of our order. That a friendly intercourse is a basis on which the prosperity of our fraternity and harmony of the Craft are founded. This is highly advantageous to create respect among our Grand Lodges, and to promote and cherish the Masonic virtues. This harmony will actuate and influence proper motives, and place our institution in a flourishing and conspicuous situation. Established as Masonry is, on the foundation of genuine morality, forming a chain of union between the charitable and benevolent of all countries and nations, it ought to be cultivated with harmony and zeal. Frequent and friendly communications, with an exchange of good offices, will shed a lustre on our institution, and spread its benign influence to all nations around the globe. From such an establishment among the Craft, through the United States, and a steady adherence to its principles, cannot fail in a great degree to insure its votaries the blessings of our institution. The prejudices of mankind will yield to our influence, and recognize us a band of friends and brothers. The pillars of our order, will become strengthened and redound to the honour of the Craft.

Your committee are grieved to say, that such communications are not received from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. Repeated requests have been made on our part

for redress of injury, without proper returns on their part. Friendly solicitations were given them. They turned a deaf ear, and silently refuse that social union which should grapple our souls into one band of brothers. Hard as it is, we owe duties to ourselves and the Craft, which compel us to perform that painful task, in recommending the following resolutions :

Resolved by this Grand Lodge, That one request more be made to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, to call in any Charter or Charters, which may have been issued by them, constituting a Lodge or Lodges in the state of Tennessee, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee ; and if the same is not by them done in a convenient time, that this Grand Lodge will forever renounce all further communications with them, or any of their subordinate Lodges. And that no Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall have any communication with them, or any Lodge under their jurisdiction.

Resolved further, That a copy of these proceedings be transmitted to every Grand Lodge in the United States, and to the Grand Lodge in Nova Scotia ; with a request that our conduct in this particular, may be so approbated by them, as to influence their co-operations with us, in effecting an alteration in the conduct of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

H. G. BURTON,
Wm. W. JONES, } *Committee.*
R. W. SMITH.

This Grand Lodge taking the foregoing report into consideration ; Resolved unanimously, that they do concur therwith.

This Grand Lodge then adjourned until Dec. 20th.

December, 20*th A. L.* 5809. *A. D.* 1809.

The Grand Lodge met according to adjournment,

WHEN WERE PRESENT,

The most Worshipful Major General Benjamin Smith, Grand Master.

R. W. Robert Williams, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. General Montfort Stokes, G. S. W. *pro tem.*

R. W. Doct. Calvin Jones, G. J. W. *pro tem.*

R. W. Henry Fitts. Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*

R. W. William Boylan, Grand Treasurer.

Brother Joseph H. Bryan, G. S. D. *pro tem.*

Brother Allen Rogers, G J. D. *pro tem.*

Brother Thomas Pounds, Grand Tyler.

Visitors.—Brothers Doctor Henry Williams from Massachusetts, and Jonathan Parker.

Representatives, to wit: from

St. John, No. 3. Newbern, Brother Robert Williams.

Royal Edwin, No. 5. Windsor, Brothers Joseph H. Bryan and G. L Ryan.

Old Cone, No. 9. Salisbury, Brother Gen. M. Stokes.

Johnston, Caswell, No. 10. Warrenton, Brother Henry Fittz.

Hiram, No. 24. Williamsborough, Granville county, Brothers Thomas Taylor, and Henry Yancy.

Davie, No. 39. Bertie county, Brother Andrew Jones.

Hiram, No. 40. City of Raleigh, Brother Allen Rogers.

Liberty, No. 45. Wilkesborough, Brother Edmund Jones and Israel Pickens.

Newport, No. 50. in the town of Newport, State of Tennessee, Brother Robert Williams.

King Solomon, No. 52. in the town of Gallatin, State of Tennessee, Brother Robert Williams.

Hall, No. 53. Indian town, Currituck county, Brother Brickhouse Bell.

Unanimity, No. 54. Edenton, Brother John Beasley.

Lodge by dispensation in the town of Franklin, State of Tennessee, Brother Robert Williams.

This Lodge was opened in due and solemn form.

On motion of Brother Stokes, it is Resolved, that the Grand Master be requested to direct the Grand Secretary to lay before him all the communications received during the recess of the Grand Lodge, in due time, previous to the annual communication of this Grand Lodge, so that the Grand Master may lay before this Grand Lodge such abstracts therefrom as he may deem proper for their consideration.

The most Worshipful Grand Master, General Benjamin Smith, made a present to this Grand Lodge of a book on the subject of Masonry, which was received: whereupon it was unanimously Resolved, that the thanks of this Grand Lodge, be presented to the Most Worful Major General Benjamin Smith, Grand Master of Masons, for his donation of said book, and that the same be entered on the records of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge, be presented to the Most Worshipful Major Gen. Benjamin Smith, Grand Master of Masons, for his able and faithful discharge of the several and many duties by him performed as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North-Carolina and Tennessee, for the last year; and that an entry be accordingly made on the records of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That an extra allowance be made at the discretion of the Grand Master to the Grand Tyler, for his services as Steward, and for other services by him rendered to this Grand Lodge.

The Committee to whom was referred the several communications from the Lodges of South Carolina,

having taken that matter into consideration, respectfully Report,

That although we seriously regret the unfortunate differences existing between the Brethren of that State, yet we are unable to devise any effectual mode of reconciling them. We, however, for the purpose of conciliating the Masonic bodies of South Carolina, and for reconciling differences in future, your committee respectfully recommend the following resolutions.

Resolved, That the most Worshipful Grand Master communicate with the Lodges of South Carolina, exhorting them to a reconciliation, but expressly informing them that we deem it improper to interfere.

Resolved, That it be recommended, that a national Grand Lodge be established, and that this Grand Lodge do solicit a convention of Masons for that purpose, to be held some where in the United States.

This Grand Lodge taking the foregoing report into consideration, resolved that they do concur therewith. Whereupon it was further resolved, that the Grand Secretary be directed to write Circular Letters to the different Grand Lodges of the United States, and Nova Scotia, soliciting a convention of Masons in the City of Washington, on the third Monday of January, A. D. 1811.

This Grand Lodge adjourned, *sine die*.

Test, THOMAS L. WILLIAMS,
Grand Secretary.

Expulsions from the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of North-Carolina and Tennessee, to wit:

Charles C. M'Kinzie, from Old Cone, No. 9. Salisbury, for gross misbehaviour, unworthy of a member of our Craft.

John Brodie, sen. from Hiram, No. 24. Williamsborough, Granville county, for improper conduct.

Robert Dorsey and John H. Swoope, from St. Tammony Lodge, No. 30. Wilmington, for apostacy and unworthiness.

Test, THOMAS L. WILLIAMS,
Grand Secretary.

A LIST OF LODGES

Under the jusisdiction of the Grand Lodge of North-Carolina and Tennessee.

St. John,	No. 1, Wilmington.
Royal White Heart,	2, Hallifax.
St. John,	3, Newbern.
Royal Edwin,	5, Windsor,
Phœnix,	8, Fayetteville.
Old Cone,	9, Salisbury.
Johnston Caswell,	10, Warrenton.
Washington,	15, Beaufort county.
American George,	17, Murfreesborough.
King Solomon,	18, Jones county.
Hiram,	24, Williamsborough, Granville.
Pansophia,	25. Moore county.
Mount Moria,	27, Iredell county.
St. Tammany,	30, Wilmington.
Phalanx,	31, Charlotte, Mecklenburg county.
Stokes,	32, Cabarrus county.
Freeland,	33, Rowan county.
Jerusalem,	35, Carteret county.
Davie,	39, Bertie county.
Hiram,	40, City of Raleigh.
Tennessee, No. 2, of the state of Tennessee,	41, Knoxville.
Federal,	42, Pitt county.
Greenville, No. 3, of Tennessee,	43, Greenville, Tennessee.
Williams,	44, Johnstonville, Randolph county.
Liberty,	45, Wilkesborough, Wilkes county.
Social,	46, Pittsborough, Chatham county.
Orange,	47, Lincoln county.
Taylor,	48, Beaufort.
Young Eagle,	49, Martin county.
Newport, No. 4, of Tennessee,	50, Newport, state of Tennessee.
Overton, No. 5, of Tennessee,	51, Rogersville, state of Tennessee.
King Solomon, No, 6, of Ten.	52, Town of Gallatin state of Ten.
Hall,	53, Indian Town Currituck county.
Unanimity.	54, Edenton.
Hiram, No. 7, of Tennessee,	55, In the Town Gallatin Ten.

From the Grand Archives.

THOMAS L. WILLIAMS,
Grand Secretary.